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	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
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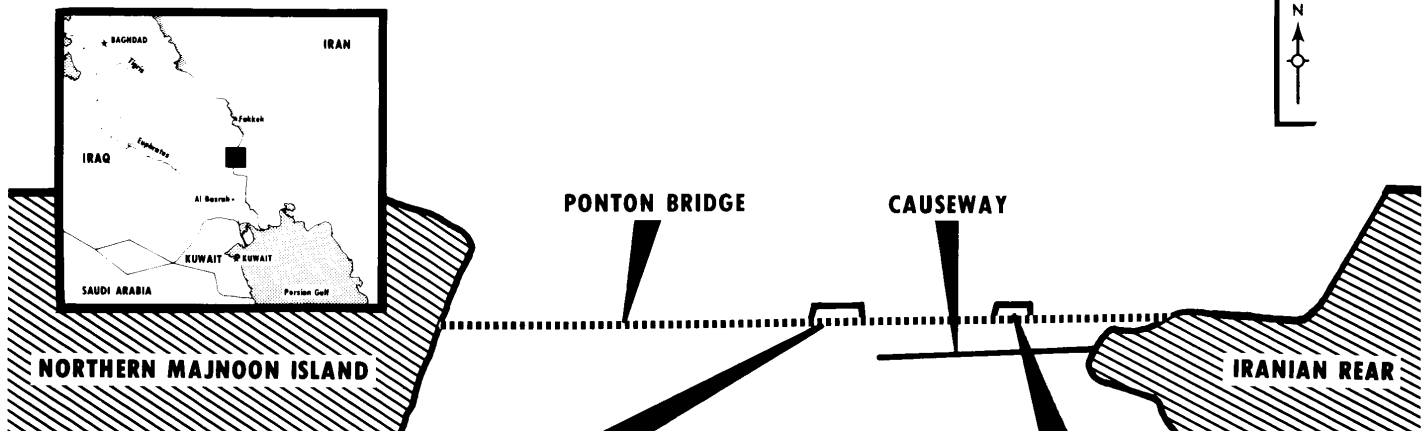
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NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
NOCONTRACT-	Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants
PROPIN-	Caution-Proprietary Information Involved
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AL BASRAH BATTLE AREA IRAQ-IRAN BORDER

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AL BASRAH BATTLE AREA
IRAQ-IRAN BORDER

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1. SIGNIFICANCE: A HIGH LEVEL OF LOGISTICS/RESUPPLY ACTIVITY IS OBSERVED IN THE IRANIAN REAR AREA IN THE VICINITY OF THE EASTERN TERMINUS OF THE PONTON BRIDGE. (SWN)
2. REMARKS: AT LEAST 100 TRUCKS/VEHICLES ARE ON THE ROAD BETWEEN THE TERMINUS AND THE LIMITS OF IMAGERY. TWO FERRIES/BARGES LOADED WITH TRUCKS/EQUIPMENT ARE IN THE MARSH BETWEEN THE IRANIAN REAR AND THE NORTHERN MAJNOON ISLAND. A THIRD FERRY/BARGE IS LOADED WITH A POSSIBLE ARMORED VEHICLE AND IS NEXT TO THE EASTERN TERMINUS. THE CAUSEWAY UNDER CONSTRUCTION, PARALLEL TO THE PONTON BRIDGE, IS APPROXIMATELY ONE-THIRD COMPLETE. PONTON SECTIONS ARE BEING STOCKPILED NEAR THE CENTER OF THE PONTON BRIDGE WHERE APPROXIMATELY 400 PONTON SECTIONS HAVE ARRIVED [REDACTED] AN ADDITIONAL 140 PONTON SECTIONS ARE BEING TOWED THROUGH THE MARSH TOWARDS THIS AREA. AT LEAST 160 MORE ARE NEAR THE EASTERN TERMINUS. MOST OF THESE PONTON SECTIONS WERE NOT PRESENT [REDACTED] AT LEAST ELEMENTS OF AN IRANIAN BMP ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER (APC)-EQUIPPED MECHANIZED INFANTRY PLATOON ARE ON THE SOUTHERN ISLAND. TWO BMP APC ARE IN THE VICINITY OF 31-05N 047-37E, APPROXIMATELY 3 NM BEHIND THE FORWARD-EDGE-OF-THE BATTLE AREA. TRACK ACTIVITY IN THIS AREA INDICATES THAT ADDITIONAL ARMORED VEHICLES ARE PROBABLY PRESENT. A POSSIBLE AIR DEFENSE SITE IS JUST WEST OF THE TWO BMP. AT LEAST ONE PROBABLE LIGHT ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY PIECE AND ONE UNIDENTIFIED PIECE OF EQUIPMENT ARE PRESENT. (SWN)
3. BE N/A, COORDINATES N/A

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